

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph appearing at page 15, lines 2-9, with the following amended paragraph:

In order to further improve the leukocyte removal performance per unit volume, it is preferable to use a filter comprising nonwoven fabric having a small fiber diameter and a low formation index. In order to remove leukocytes by using a leukocyte removal filter having a high leukocyte removal performance per unit volume and showing a small degree of blood loss, it is preferable that the formation index  $y$  corresponding to a thickness of 0.3 mm of the nonwoven fabric be 50 or less and be lower than the value obtained using the following equation (2).

$$[[y =]] a \times \text{average fiber diameter of nonwoven fabric } (\mu\text{m}) + 55, \quad a = -4 \quad (2)$$